

had his preparations for departure made several days ago and had been waiting a ruling by the German authorities, were informed that they will be permitted to pass through the German territory in a sealed car on their way to Stockholm.

COL. E. M. HOUSE IS DUE TO REACH PARIS TODAY

PARIS, January 21.—Col. E. M. House, accompanied by his wife, proceeding by automobile from Boulogne to Paris, was expected here today. Col. and Mrs. House will be the guests of William Graves Sharp, the American ambassador to France.

According to present arrangements, Col. House will leave here for Switzerland on Sunday, presumably to visit Berlin and Vienna. He is to return in two or three weeks, and then meet the important personages of the French government. The French press is manifesting much interest in his mission.

BREAD OR BEER, CHOICE CONFRONTING BRITAIN

LONDON, January 21.—"Before long the country may have to choose between bread and beer," said Sir Alfred A. Booth, chairman of the Cunard company, in an interview, in citing the brewing and distilling industry as one that was absorbing the services of the ships of the country on a gigantic scale. The net result of this, he said, was only a decrease in national efficiency.

Sir Alfred expressed the highest satisfaction at the announcement of Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, that articles not strictly necessary might have to be shut out of the country.

MAJ. JOLLY TO HEAD AMERICAN BATTALION

TORONTO, Ontario, January 21.—Major W. L. Jolly has been appointed to command and reorganize the 97th (American) Battalion, to succeed Lieut. Col. F. Clark, who was permitted to resign. Major Jolly has had twenty years' experience in the American regulars. Officially, the cause of Col. Clark's resignation is given as ill health.

HUNDRED-MILLION-FRANC LOAN PLANNED BY SWISS

BERN, via Paris, January 21.—The Swiss government is preparing to issue a fourth loan of 100,000,000 francs. It will offer for subscription bonds bearing 4 1/2 per cent interest. The proceeds will be used to cover the cost of the continued mobilization of the army.

20,000 GERMAN TROOPS ON GALLIOLI PENINSULA

LONDON, January 21.—Telegraphing from Bucharest, Rumania, the Times correspondent says there are 20,000 German troops now on the Gallioli peninsula, and that in all the towns and villages the military and civil authorities are German. The correspondent adds that the replaced Turkish troops are being sent into training for an invasion of Egypt.

VIOLENT ENGAGEMENTS ON BESSARABIAN FRONT

BERLIN, January 21.—Increasing violent fighting on the Bessarabian frontier is announced by the Vienna war office, but it is declared that all the attacks of superior Russian forces have been repulsed with heavy losses to them.

German troops have been engaged in only minor operations along the front in Russia, according to announcement in army headquarters today. The statement reports merely the easy repulse of small Russian detachments between Pinsk and Cartorysk.

MILITARY SERVICE BILL PASSED IN COMMONS

Skill Used in Piloting Measure Through British Body Brings Praise.

LONDON, January 21.—The military service bill passed through the committee of the house of commons at 11 o'clock last night amid loud cheers.

Walter Hume Long, president of the local government, in a speech closing the discussion, said he was glad to remove the impression that under this bill the government was creating a great monster in the form of a military machine which would grab at any man coming within its scope. There was no intention that the war office should act with undue severity, but, on the contrary, it intended to maintain the present system almost identical, but giving it a statutory position it hitherto had not occupied.

Socialist Pays Tribute.

Philip Snowden, the socialist member for Blackburn, speaking as an opponent of the bill, paid a warm tribute to the generous way the bill had been piloted through the house by Andrew Bonar Law and Mr. Long.

Mr. Bonar Law then expressed the grateful thanks of himself and Mr. Long to all sections for the restraint shown in connection with the bill.

John Dillon, nationalist, added that he had never seen a bill which might easily have been introduced, heatedly debated, conducted through the house with greater skill or in a more cordial manner than the bill brought before the house by Mr. Bonar Law.

Mr. Long and Mr. Bonar Law, in their speeches, had shown greater skill than in leaving its conduct to Mr. Long and Mr. Bonar Law.

Labor in Stormy Session.

The parliamentary labor party held a meeting in the house of commons last night to discuss their attitude at the forthcoming labor conference at Bristol, which will finally decide labor's attitude on the compulsory question.

It is understood that last night's proceedings were very stormy and that acrimonious denunciations were made of the labor leaders who supported the bill in the house.

In spite of the strong, conflicting currents of opinion thus indicated, the influential leaders are anxious to avoid a split in the party's ranks, and wish to retain Arthur Henderson and other laborites in the ministry and are working hard to secure harmony.

Bill Provides for Leprosarium.

A bill to provide for a two-hundred-and-fifty-thousand-dollar national sanatorium for the treatment of leprosy was reported favorably today by the House of Commons.

Bill Proposes Motor Boat Tags.

Tags for motor boats, similar to the numbered license tags now required on automobiles, are proposed in the bill introduced by Chairman Alexander of the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries. The bill carries out the proposals of the Department of Commerce.

SCHOOL OFFICERS FACE SPACE PROBLEM

Overcrowding Expected, It Is Stated, Where Already There Is Pressure for Room.

Plans for the Midyear Commencement and Reorganization Are Under Way.

With next week marking the end of the first half of the school year, plans are rapidly nearing completion for mid-year commencement exercises and reorganization. One of the principal difficulties faced by the school officials in preparing for the reorganization is the problem of where to put the "surplus" children; how to squeeze in a few more here and there where the pressure is already proving great.

In the high schools, especially, more overcrowding is expected, the incoming number exceeding the number graduating and leaving.

Tentative Figures Given.

Tentative figures as to what high schools the youngsters anticipate entering have been announced as follows:

| | Boys | Girls | Total |
|----------|------|-------|-------|
| Central | 125 | 125 | 250 |
| Eastern | 24 | 49 | 73 |
| Western | 12 | 12 | 24 |
| McKinley | 91 | 169 | 260 |
| McKinley | 138 | 94 | 232 |

Eastern High School is not to hold commencement exercises at this time, the February graduates returning in June and receiving their diplomas with the class exercises, which will be held at the high school exercises to be held in the respective buildings.

McKinley School Exercises First.

McKinley Manual Training School is to be the first to hold its commencement exercises, having them scheduled for Thursday evening. No speaker has been obtained. Ernest L. Thurston, superintendent of schools, is to preside, and Mrs. Susie Root Rhodes, member of the board of education, is to present the diplomas. Music is to be furnished by the McKinley High School band.

Rev. John E. A. Doernmann is to deliver the invocation. Class night exercises are to be held Tuesday evening.

At the McKinley school, there is no speaker so far. The exercises are to take place next Friday evening, with Mrs. Daniel, vice president of the board of education, presiding. Mrs. Edith Kingman Kern is to present the diplomas. Rev. Dr. Early Wiley is to lead the devotional exercises. Wednesday evening is to be celebrated as "class night."

Western High School is to hold its exercises Monday morning, January 21, at 11 o'clock. Henry P. Blair, president of the board of education, is to preside, while Superintendent Thurston is to present the diplomas. Rev. Dr. Bernard Graham is to deliver the invocation. Music will be furnished by the school under the direction of Miss George Thompson. Friday is to be class night.

None of the colored high schools is to hold commencement exercises. Their graduates, few in number, waiting to take part in the June commencement.

Eighth Grade Programs.

Following in the footsteps of their big brothers and sisters in the high schools, eighth-grade pupils who are to complete the grade schools are likewise to hold suitable exercises, at which they will receive certificates, or commonly called "diplomas."

Following is an outline of the exercises of the eighth grade:

Third division, R. L. Haycock, supervising principal—January 21, 10 a.m., at the McKinley School; speakers: William R. H. Haycock, president of the Columbia Heights Citizens' Association; presentation of certificates, Mr. Haycock, music by the McKinley band.

Fourth division, Dr. E. Patterson, supervising principal—January 21, 11 a.m., at the Thomson School. Speaker, Mrs. H. B. Patterson, president of the Thomson School Association; presentation of certificates, Mrs. H. B. Patterson, music by the Thomson band.

Fifth division, Selden M. Ely, supervising principal—Saturday afternoon, January 23, at 2:15 o'clock; speaker, Prof. Edward J. Ward of the United States bureau of education; presentation of diplomas, Mrs. Edith Kingman Kern, member of the board of education; presiding officer, Mr. Ely; invocation, Rev. Henry E. Brundage, music by the division orchestra.

Sixth division, Dr. E. G. Kimball, supervising principal—January 21, 10:15 a.m., assembly hall, Eastern High School; speakers: Thomas W. Walton, director of education of the Y. M. C. A.; presiding officer, Dr. Kimball; music by the division orchestra, under the direction of Miss Helen Burkhardt.

Seventh division, Dr. E. G. Kimball, supervising principal—January 21, 10:15 a.m., assembly hall, Eastern High School; speakers: Thomas W. Walton, director of education of the Y. M. C. A.; presiding officer, Dr. Kimball; music by the division orchestra, under the direction of Miss Helen Burkhardt.

Eighth division, Miss Anne E. Beers, supervising principal—January 21, 11 a.m., at the Bryn School. Speaker, Mrs. Ellen Spencer Mueser, former member of the board of education; presiding officer, Mr. Johnson; devotional exercises, Mrs. Mueser; presentation of certificates, Mrs. Mueser; music to be furnished by the graduating class.

ALMOST UNANIMOUS PROTEST.

The District's Voice Against Proposed School Change.

To the Editor of The Star:

The almost unanimous protest against a change in the District school system, which has followed the proposals of the Commissioners, in measures now before Congress, is a splendid proof of Washington's civic spirit.

It must in a way greatly please the Commissioners themselves that in all this outburst there has been no personal attack directed against them. Commissioner Newman pointed out a fact before the Monday Evening Club last Monday night—District residents discuss measures and not men, for we are separate from ordinary political functions.

Whatever courtesy of feeling the District may display toward the Commissioners does not conceal the fact that the residents here feel outraged, bruised and frightened; hence the unanimity.

Why do we meet and resolve, why do we appear before Congress, why will we not hush our protests in public print and in voice?

First—Because a measure affecting the schools touches every home with a child and every home that has had a child in the schools between 1906, the date of the present system, and now. Because in every home the child is a part of the life to be considered than any wish to try out a new theory of centralized government.

Second—Because we residents of the District had rested serenely in the solution proposed by the former Board of Commissioners and present Commissioner Newman that the organized citizenship of the District would be consulted on

all legislation affecting the District, only to find that in December, 1915, the Board of Commissioners was totally abrogated.

Third—Because this legislation proposing a complete change in our school system was in the obvious form of a "rider" on the "estimates of appropriations for 1917." So was the proposal to abolish the board of charities; so was the plan to take powers from the trustees of the library. The Commissioners must understand that in Washington as elsewhere thinking men consider "rider" legislation to be cowardly in essence.

Fourth—Because there has been persistent whispering in public meetings among the members of the Monday Evening Club and around the National Press Club, "Administration measure; no use fighting it; going through, anyhow." The natural impulse of every one who has been approached in such a manner is to declare that a great President who has suffered from "rider" legislation since 1913 could not possibly desire it in 1916.

Fifth—Because, deep down in the hearts of those of us who love our country for what she has done for us and for what we have tried to do for her in personal devotion, we know that the old world is right now testing our institutions; we know that if we yield to every vagrant impulse toward centralization, the volunteer servants of the public will be succeeded by hirelings and the time will come when we shall retain the form of a republic, but not the substance.

We know that a sense of danger to the blessed thing left in us by the fathers, 128 years ago is stirring in many hearts over the nation, and we are frightened, here in the District, over our own sense in the face of those who have been bewildered by the supposed success in Europe of mechanizing a whole people.

We want some freedom to work out our own salvation, and we call to our aid every senator and representative who at home honestly praises the beauties of government by the people. They must rescue us from government by a dictatorship. We do not want to be experimented with on a European basis.

GROSVENOR DAWE.

RESOLUTIONS ARE RETURNED.

Chairman Johnson Objects to Language of Northwest Citizens.

Chairman Johnson today returned to the Citizens' Northwest Suburban Association the set of resolutions presented to the District committee by that association opposing the bill to centralize the school system in the Commissioners' hands. The letter of transmittal from Chairman Johnson to A. J. Yowell, secretary of the association, is as follows:

"In compliance with a resolution adopted by the House committee on District of Columbia I am herewith returning to you a set of resolutions adopted by the association relative to the board of education.

"The committee, because of language contained reflecting upon the motives of the Commissioners and others, and at the same time suggesting the characters of the girls in the schools and the teachers are such that it is not only possible, but probable, that they will decline to receive the resolutions."

"It is to be hoped that they will be reproduced in facsimile, because it will then be evident that Capt. von Papen never made a payment to Werner Horn, who is accused of having attempted to blow up a Canadian railway bridge.

"But in case the British publish anything of this kind it may be asserted in advance that it will be a forgery.

Horn Case Singled Out.

"It is interesting to note that in the British wireless reports the accusation that Capt. von Papen was connected with many plots to blow up ammunition works in the United States apparently has been dropped. The case of Horn is singled out.

"It is solemnly stated in the British wireless dispatches that the letters and other documents taken from Capt. von Papen were seized because they were personal belongings which were not protected by the bank conduct guaranteed to him. If this is really the British idea everybody in Germany will be indignant. The board of education, in view of the disturbances in Yunnan province, no intimation was given when the endorsement will take place. Government officials estimate that not more than six months will be required to quiet the disturbances in the south.

TOKIO, January 21.—A conference between the emperor and the elder statesmen and the members of the cabinet has created the impression that the emperor will support the leadership of Japan, are discussing the possibility of a new step to secure a permanent peace in the Far East. Monarchy in China until the end of the European war.

AVOIDANCE OF PARTIALITY.

President Invites Neutral Representatives to Both Diplomatic Dinners.

Diplomatic representatives in Washington of all neutral nations have been invited to both of the diplomatic dinners to be given at the White House this winter. The first, tonight, will be attended by representatives of the entente allies and the second, next Tuesday, by those of Germany and her allies.

The original plan was to have the neutrals divided between the two dinners. Because of the possibilities of misunderstandings, however, this idea has been abandoned, and invitations for both affairs have been sent to the neutral diplomats. The ranking officer of each embassy or legation with his wife is invited, and there will be about eighty guests at each dinner.

The entente diplomats are invited to the first dinner, because Ambassador Jusserand of France is the dean of the diplomatic corps.

Wants Tax Here on Near-Beer.

Representative Cary of Milwaukee has introduced a bill to impose a tax of \$800 a year on persons who sell beer in the city of Milwaukee.

The Milwaukee man gave as his reasons the fact that near-beer is but a poor imitation of the real thing, and is affecting the industry of real beer, for which his home town is famous. However, Mr. Cary's bill covers only the District of Columbia, leaving near-beer sellers in the rest of the United States to pursue their traffic in peace without taxation.

DAY IN CONGRESS.

Senate: Not in session; meets Monday.

House: Met at noon.

Military and naval affairs committees continued hearings on the bill to provide \$250,000 for a national leprosy leprosy favorably reported by commerce committee.

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Chairman Johnson introduced a bill for the relief of James T. Petty.

FORGERIES PREDICTED IN VON PAPER PAPERS

German Agency Attributes Wrongdoing by British in Advance of Publication.

BERLIN, January 21, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—Another statement in defense of Capt. Franz von Papen, former German military attaché at Washington, was made today by the Overseas News Agency, as follows:

"A wireless dispatch from London states that the letters, checks and vouchers which were taken from Capt. von Papen by the British at Falmouth, in violation of international law, are to be published.

"It is to be hoped that they will be reproduced in facsimile, because it will then be evident that Capt. von Papen never made a payment to Werner Horn, who is accused of having attempted to blow up a Canadian railway bridge.

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Books for Belgian Soldiers.

George Washington University is aiding in the collection of French and Flemish scientific books for distribution among Belgian soldiers who are in hospitals or prison camps. English books, novels, illustrated magazines and English-French and French-English dictionaries also are being collected. A benevolent organization with headquarters in London will have charge of the distribution of the books.

At the head of the movement at the university is Prof. George N. Hendling, head of the department of romance languages, publisher and president of the Harvard Club of Washington.

3,000,000 PRISONERS TAKEN BY TEUTONIC ALLIES DURING WAR

LONDON, January 21.—An American dispatch to the Central News says that the total body of the Teutonic allies during seventeen months of war is summed up in Vienna as follows:

Nearly 3,000,000 prisoners, 10,000 guns, 40,000 machine guns, while 47,000 square kilometers of enemy territory has been occupied.

NEUTRALITY VIOLATIONS REPORTED TO THE HOUSE

Seventy-Three Persons and Three Steamship Companies Have Been Indicted.

Attorney General Gregory reported to the House judiciary committee today that seventy-three persons and three steamship companies had been indicted for connection with violations of American neutrality since the war began. His report was in response to a resolution introduced by Representative Bennett of New York, in his address to Congress, assailed the neutrality violators and hyphenated Americans.

The Attorney General, in a letter to Chairman Webb of the committee, reported to a resolution introduced by Representative Bennett of New York, referred to him by the committee. He did not include the indictments in connection with Mexican contraband, assuming that the resolution applied to only those connected with the European war.

Still Some Fugitives.

The resolution called for the names of "those arrested," but the Attorney General said that the names submitted would not include all who had been indicted. The board of education, in view of the disturbances in Yunnan province, no intimation was given when the endorsement will take place. Government officials estimate that not more than six months will be required to quiet the disturbances in the south.

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FRENCH PRESS STORMS OVER PAPER'S SEIZURE

Orders of Censor's Bureaus Against Petit Parisien and Journal Arouses Ire.

PARIS, January 21.—The seizure Wednesday, throughout France, of all copies of the Petit Parisien and the Journal, by order of the censor's bureaus, has raised a storm of protest in the entire press. The Parisien belongs to Senator Jean Dupuy, and the Journal to Senator Charles Humbert. They have circulation of over a million copies each, and both are regarded as sober, influential publications, which have always complied with the requests of the censorship.

Reason for Seizure.

The reason for the seizure, the Journal says, was the publication of the note given by the consul of Montenegro in Paris. Its publication at first was authorized, but later was ordered stopped, and as meantime the editions of these newspapers for the provinces had been printed and sent out, the editors or publishers, telegraphed to every town in France, ordering the police to seize all copies of the two newspapers containing the note.

A few hours later authority was given for the publication of the note with a few slight alterations, but the police had already executed the orders which have occasioned the present outburst of criticism.

Purport of the Note.

The note issued by the Montenegrin consul in Paris was cabled by the Associated Press correspondent January 18 and received here on the following day. It constitutes an apology for the King of Montenegro and his government in agreeing to surrender to Austria-Hungary, the consul basing his acceptance of the new situation on connection on the press reports. He said that if Montenegro capitulated it was because the army had exhausted its strength, and that the Albanian side there was intense hostility.

CONSIDERING TRANSFER FROM D. C. COMMITTEE

Senator Kern Says Work as Senate Party Leader Prevents Attention He Thinks Necessary.